

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael L. Fuller on June 4, 2008.

2. The application has been amended as follows:

- a. In the specification, see applicant's amendments dated 12/11/2003, 3rd line from last, after "2000," add -- now US Patent 6,758,988, --
- b. Claims 43-63, 73-77, 94 and 96 are cancelled without prejudice to their further prosecution in a continuation application.
- c. In claim 93, line 4, replace "effect and wherein" with -- effect,--
- d. In claim 93, last line after "solution" add

-- and wherein said at least one heteropoly complex anion is a compound selected from the group consisting of [XaMbOc]-n, [XaZdMbOc]-n, [XaZdMbOcHe]-n, [XaMbOc(OH)f]-n, [XaZdMbOc(OH)f]-n, and mixtures thereof, wherein:

X and Z are central heteroatoms selected from the group consisting of elements from Groups I-VIII of the Periodic Table of Elements; a is 1 or 2; d is an integer from 0 to 4; MbOc, MbOcHe, and MbOc(OH)f are

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oxoanions in which M is a transition metal element; b is an integer from 5 to 22; c is an integer from 20 to 70; e is an integer from 0 to 6; and f is an integer from 0 to 3; and n is the charge of the anion –

- e. In claim 95, line 1, replace "claim 94" with – claim 93--

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

3. The claims are allowable over the closest prior art of record, Chandler et al. (US 5,577,388), Rockefeller et al. (US 5,186,009) and Verma et al. (WO 97/49842) because these references teach compositions comprising essential components other than those included in the instant claims. Accordingly, the prior art do not teach or fairly suggest compositions consisting of the instantly claimed components.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to AMINA KHAN whose telephone number is (571)272-5573. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday, 8:30-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vasu Jagannathan can be reached on (571) 272-1119.

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The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Lorna M Douyon/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1796

/Amina Khan/
Examiner, Art Unit 1796
June 5, 2008